S7155-2

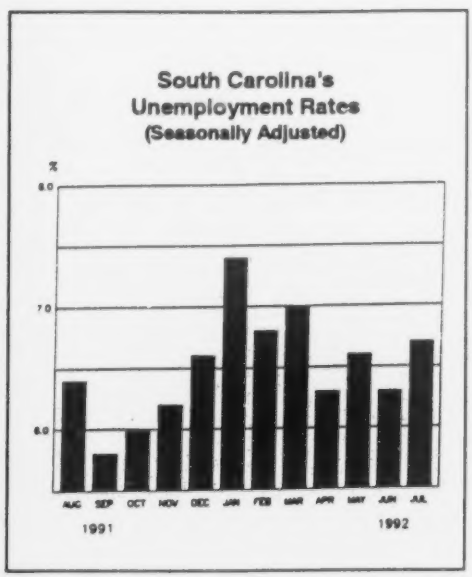
South Carolina's

Employment Trends

JULY 1992

Nonfarm Employment Recedes...

South Carolina lost 21,300 jobs in July, 15,000 in government and 6,300 in the private sector. Expected seasonal influences, such as schools discharging nonfaculty employees for the summer along with continued layoffs in manufacturing, facilitated this severe decline. Because of the high concentration of women workers in these areas, total nonfarm female employment plummeted 15,300. The drop also brought the state's total nonfarm job count down 1.7% from the year-ago level. Although unemployment climbed to 6.7%, South Carolina's rate remained a full point below that of the nation.



Education Lowers Government...

In the public sector, state and local government trimmed 1,100 and 1,400 jobs, respectively, as schools let out for the summer. Increases in park and recreation positions and summer work programs pushed other state government up 200 and added 300 to other local government payrolls, while cuts in defense spending took 200 federal jobs.

Manufacturing Employment Down...

The state's private sector registered a sharp downturn as manufacturing employment shrank by 4,600, to 361,600. Durable and nondurable goods each contributed to the decline, attributable to temporary and permanent layoffs. The manufacturing workweek fell 0.3 hour, to 41.6, and the average hourly earnings inched up $0.01, to $9.48. Nationally, the manufacturing workweek held steady at 41.0 hours, and average hourly wages added $.01 to reach $11.46. The state's factories reported that productivity decreased by 2.1 points to 98.5. The over-the-month drop reflected declining output per hour of 2.5 and 1.8 points in durable and nondurable goods, respectively.

Employment in trade sank from 338,600 to 336,800, with retail trade accounting for 89% of the 1,800 drop. As consumer buying habits remained depressed, retailers and wholesalers, statewide, continued to operate with minimum staffing. Jobs in transportation and public utilities, and services slid 500 each. In the former, a slowdown in motor freight transportation and warehousing keyed the downturn, while, in the latter, seasonal reductions in educational services overshadowed additions in business and automotive repairs. On a more positive side, construction workers found 700 jobs in special trade contracting. An increase in the resale of homes created opportunities in real estate that helped add 300 jobs to finance, insurance and real estate. Insurance carriers also grew by 100. Employment in mining was up 100 to 1,800 in July.

South Carolina's Employment Trends is produced monthly by the Labor Market Information (LMI) Division of the South Carolina Employment Security Commission, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor. Please direct questions or comments to the Labor Market Information Division, (803) 737-2660.

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Outlook...

South Carolina's economy should remain in a mixed mode with moderate job losses occurring in the private sector, as employers are expected to make seasonal reductions. Government should see seasonal expansion as schools and colleges hire for the new academic term.

For your information...

The 1990-2000 edition of **South Carolina Industry and Occupation Projections** is now available from the Labor Market Information Division of the Employment Security Commission. This publication includes projections on nonagricultural wage and salary employment by industry and occupation. You can receive your copy, priced at $15, by calling (803) 737-2660.

Civilian Labor Force Summary
July 1992

	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991
United States (seas. adj.)			
Civilian Labor Force	127,532,000	127,549,000	125,204,000
Total Employment	117,772,000	117,574,000	116,729,000
Total Unemployment	9,760,000	9,975,000	8,475,000
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.7	7.8	6.8
South Carolina (seas. adj.)			
Civilian Labor Force	1,802,500	1,759,100	1,769,300
Total Employment	1,681,600	1,647,500	1,657,600
Total Unemployment	120,900	111,700	111,700
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.7	6.3	6.3
Greenville-Spartanburg MSA			
Civilian Labor Force	359,510	350,820	353,700
Total Employment	339,950	331,650	335,330
Total Unemployment	19,550	19,170	18,370
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.4	5.5	5.2
Columbia MSA			
Civilian Labor Force	256,040	250,340	252,570
Total Employment	243,450	238,020	241,310
Total Unemployment	12,590	12,320	11,260
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.9	4.9	4.5
Charleston MSA			
Civilian Labor Force	258,840	252,280	252,670
Total Employment	243,380	236,180	240,490
Total Unemployment	15,460	16,090	12,180
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.0	6.4	4.8

Labor Force and Unemployment for Selected Cities in South Carolina

July 1992

City	Labor Force			Unemployment			Unemployment Rate (%)		
	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991
Anderson	14,000	13,950	13,890	1,210	1,170	1,270	8.6	8.4	9.1
Charleston	42,530	41,460	41,470	2,590	2,710	2,010	6.1	6.5	4.8
Columbia	50,400	49,220	49,600	3,190	3,070	2,810	6.3	6.2	5.7
Florence	17,030	17,010	16,660	1,180	1,200	980	6.9	7.1	5.9
Goose Creek	7,600	7,390	7,370	480	480	340	6.3	6.5	4.6
Greenville	36,260	35,460	35,520	2,280	2,300	2,000	6.3	6.5	5.6
Mt. Pleasant	9,930	9,660	9,750	300	320	240	3.1	3.3	2.5
Myrtle Beach	15,630	15,130	15,130	650	710	550	4.1	4.7	3.6
North Charleston	25,700	25,120	24,880	2,420	2,520	1,870	9.4	10.0	7.5
Rock Hill	24,810	24,420	23,980	1,890	2,000	1,670	7.6	8.2	7.0
Spartanburg	24,680	24,140	24,320	1,580	1,610	1,530	6.4	6.7	6.3
Sumter	12,640	12,640	12,620	1,050	1,090	1,530	8.3	8.6	12.1

Labor Force and Unemployment in South Carolina by County and Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)
July 1992

County	Labor Force			Unemployment			Unemployment Rate (%)		
	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991
Abbeville	11,550	11,230	11,230	920	820	1,000	7.9	7.3	8.9
Aiken	75,240	71,590	71,710	5,240	4,340	3,640	7.0	6.1	5.1
Allendale	6,110	5,970	5,900	740	510	570	12.1	8.6	9.7
Anderson MSA	72,230	72,030	71,600	4,810	4,680	5,080	6.7	6.5	7.1
Bamberg	7,020	6,940	7,040	640	740	790	9.2	10.6	11.2
Barnwell	9,680	9,630	9,340	1,270	1,280	1,310	13.1	13.3	14.0
Beaufort	41,310	39,910	39,910	1,760	1,870	1,410	4.3	4.7	3.5
Berkeley	58,890	57,260	57,190	3,460	3,460	2,410	5.9	6.0	4.2
Calhoun	4,780	4,970	4,670	470	430	490	9.8	8.6	10.5
Charleston	158,990	155,030	154,970	9,940	10,380	7,690	6.3	6.7	5.0
Cherokee	23,630	23,660	23,480	1,790	1,610	1,970	7.6	6.8	8.4
Chester	14,470	14,640	14,450	1,770	1,770	2,050	12.2	12.1	14.2
Chesterfield	21,780	21,640	20,780	1,400	1,280	1,240	6.4	5.9	6.0
Clarendon	11,870	12,410	12,200	1,340	1,390	1,610	11.3	11.2	13.2
Colleton	17,300	19,210	17,040	1,510	1,600	1,390	8.7	8.3	8.2
Darlington	30,030	30,780	29,130	3,030	2,930	2,450	10.1	9.5	8.4
Dillon	14,030	14,560	13,820	1,380	1,480	1,480	9.8	10.2	10.7
Dorchester	40,950	39,990	40,520	2,060	2,250	2,090	5.0	5.6	5.2
Edgefield	6,960	7,270	6,920	540	580	350	7.8	8.0	5.1
Fairfield	10,010	10,140	9,950	940	990	1,070	9.4	9.7	10.8
Florence MSA	61,870	61,770	60,450	4,550	4,620	3,750	7.3	7.5	6.2
Georgetown	23,970	24,720	23,120	1,820	1,930	1,810	7.6	7.8	7.8
Greenville	186,260	182,050	182,680	9,790	9,890	8,620	5.3	5.4	4.7
Greenwood	29,920	29,730	29,120	2,230	2,220	2,080	7.5	7.5	7.1
Hampton	7,660	7,450	7,440	720	700	710	9.4	9.4	9.5
Horry	86,450	83,910	83,460	5,100	5,610	4,320	5.9	6.7	5.2
Jasper	6,590	6,570	6,450	430	470	330	6.6	7.2	5.1
Kershaw	21,060	20,680	20,730	1,970	1,940	1,780	9.3	9.4	8.6
Lancaster	26,990	26,080	26,910	2,600	2,530	2,620	9.6	9.7	9.7
Laurens	25,540	24,640	25,290	1,770	1,890	1,630	6.9	7.7	6.4
Lee	9,260	9,490	9,070	760	760	610	8.2	8.0	6.7
Lexington	102,260	100,120	101,040	4,420	4,460	4,060	4.3	4.5	4.0
McCormick	3,080	3,150	3,160	320	390	340	10.4	12.4	10.8
Marion	15,540	15,500	15,750	1,980	2,100	2,040	12.7	13.5	13.0
Marlboro	11,690	12,190	12,270	1,160	1,220	1,420	9.9	10.0	11.6
Newberry	15,600	16,210	15,090	1,380	1,390	890	8.9	8.6	5.9
Oconee	30,020	29,760	29,670	2,190	2,380	2,520	7.3	8.0	8.5
Orangeburg	39,850	41,320	41,390	3,720	3,830	3,530	9.3	9.3	8.5
Pickens	52,670	50,900	52,210	3,300	2,740	3,520	6.3	5.4	6.7
Richland	153,790	150,220	151,530	8,180	7,860	7,200	5.3	5.2	4.8
Saluda	9,710	9,590	9,200	510	560	370	5.3	5.8	4.0
Spartanburg	120,580	117,880	118,800	6,460	6,540	6,230	5.4	5.6	5.2
Sumter	41,660	41,640	41,510	3,370	3,500	4,900	8.1	8.4	11.8
Union	14,550	14,740	14,110	1,280	1,280	1,170	8.8	8.7	8.3
Williamsburg	17,640	17,390	17,400	1,580	1,500	1,470	9.0	8.6	8.4
York	77,630	76,310	75,100	4,990	5,280	4,420	6.4	6.9	5.9
Charleston MSA	258,840	252,280	252,670	15,460	16,090	12,180	6.0	6.4	4.8
Columbia MSA	256,040	250,340	252,570	12,590	12,320	11,260	4.9	4.9	4.5
Greenville MSA	359,510	350,820	353,700	19,550	19,170	18,370	5.4	5.5	5.2
South Carolina (seas. adj.)	**1,802.5**	**1,759.1**	**1769.3**	**120.9**	**111.7**	**111.7**	**6.7**	**6.3**	**6.3**

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in South Carolina
July 1992

	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	Net Changes From: June 1992	Net Changes From: July 1991
Total Nonagricultural Employment	**1,480,700**	**1,502,000**	**1,506,400**	**-21,300**	**-25,700**
Total Private	**1,214,100**	**1,220,400**	**1,241,100**	**-6,300**	**-27,000**
Mining	**1,800**	1,700	1,900	+100	-100
Construction	**79,200**	**78,500**	**89,200**	**+700**	**-10,000**
Heavy Construction, Excluding Building	9,400	9,500	11,400	-100	-2,000
Highway and Street Construction	2,700	2,600	3,000	+100	-300
Heavy Construction, Excluding Highway	6,700	6,900	8,400	-200	-1,700
Special Trade Contractors	41,900	41,200	45,600	+700	-3,700
Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning	10,100	9,900	11,100	+200	-1,000
Electrical Work	9,800	9,600	10,600	+200	-800
Manufacturing	**361,600**	**366,200**	**366,400**	**-4,600**	**-4,800**
Durable Goods	125,200	127,300	129,300	-2,100	-4,100
Lumber and Wood Products	13,700	13,900	14,300	-200	-600
Sawmills and Planing Mills	4,300	4,300	4,600	0	-300
Millwork, Plywood, and Structural Members	2,800	2,900	3,200	-100	-400
Furniture and Fixtures	4,200	4,100	4,000	+100	+200
Household Furniture	3,000	3,000	2,800	0	+200
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	9,200	8,900	9,500	+300	-300
Glass and Glassware, Pressed or Blown	3,100	3,100	3,300	0	-200
Concrete, Gypsum, and Plaster Products	2,300	2,300	2,600	0	-300
Primary Metal Industries	9,000	8,900	8,900	+100	+100
Fabricated Metal Products	15,700	16,200	16,400	-500	-700
Cutlery, Hand Tools, and Hardware	1,600	2,200	2,500	-600	-900
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	6,100	6,100	6,100	0	0
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	33,500	35,200	35,400	-1,700	-1,900
Metalworking Machinery	5,600	5,900	6,200	-300	-600
Special Industry Machinery	5,600	5,500	5,600	+100	0
General Industrial Machinery	7,300	7,300	7,400	0	-100
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	20,700	21,200	21,800	-500	-1,100
Electrical Industrial Apparatus	2,000	2,000	2,300	0	-300
Household Appliances	3,400	3,500	3,200	-100	+200
Electronic Components and Accessories	7,000	7,000	7,400	0	-400
Transportation Equipment	9,900	9,900	9,800	0	+100
Instruments and Related Products	5,500	5,500	5,700	0	-200
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	3,800	3,500	3,500	+300	+300
Nondurable Goods	236,400	238,900	237,100	-2,500	-700
Food and Kindred Products	14,400	14,500	14,300	-100	+100
Meat Products	5,500	5,500	5,200	0	+300
Beverages	2,100	2,100	2,300	0	-200
Textile Mill Products	90,600	91,900	92,600	-1,300	-2,000
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Cotton	22,200	22,700	24,200	-500	-2,000
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Manmade	22,800	22,700	22,900	+100	-300
Knitting Mills	7,000	7,000	7,000	0	0
Textile Finishing, Except Wool	14,600	15,100	14,700	-500	-100
Finishing Plants, Cotton	7,600	7,700	7,500	-100	+100
Finishing Plants, Manmade	6,300	6,600	6,400	-300	-100
Yarn and Thread Mills	9,900	10,000	9,800	-100	+100
Yarn Spinning Mills	9,200	9,300	9,200	-100	0
Miscellaneous Textile Goods	7,000	7,100	7,000	-100	0
Apparel and Other Textile Products	36,200	36,900	36,800	-700	-600
Men's and Boys' Furnishings	9,700	9,800	9,200	-100	+500
Men's and Boys' Shirts	5,300	5,300	5,300	0	0
Women's and Misses' Outerwear	10,800	11,200	11,500	-400	-700
Women's and Misses' Blouses and Shirts	3,100	3,300	3,300	-200	-200
Women's and Children's Undergarments	1,700	1,700	1,800	0	-100
Girls and Children's Outerwear	1,700	1,700	2,000	0	-300
Miscellaneous Apparel and Accesories	2,100	2,200	2,000	-100	+100
Miscellaneous Fabricated Textile Products	9,300	9,300	9,400	0	-100

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in South Carolina (continued)

	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	Net Changes From: June 1992	Net Changes From: July 1991
Paper and Allied Products	17,900	17,900	17,500	0	+400
Paperboard Mills	3,200	3,200	3,100	0	+100
Paperboard Containers and Boxes	6,000	6,000	6,000	0	0
Miscellaneous Converted Paper Products	4,900	4,900	4,700	0	+200
Printing and Publishing	11,400	11,500	11,700	-100	-300
Newspapers	4,300	4,300	4,400	0	-100
Commercial Printing	4,800	4,700	4,800	+100	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	41,900	41,900	40,400	0	+1,500
Plastics Materials and Synthetics	15,200	15,100	15,000	+100	+200
Industrial Organic Chemicals	3,300	3,300	3,100	0	+200
Rubber and Miscellaneous Plastics Products	22,900	23,300	23,000	-400	-100
Fabricated Rubber Products, Not Elsewhere Classified	2,800	2,900	2,800	-100	0
Misc. Plastics Products, Not Elsewhere Classified	10,100	10,400	10,200	-300	-100
Transportation and Public Utilities	**64,000**	**64,500**	**65,300**	**-500**	**-1,300**
Trucking and Warehousing	19,500	19,700	19,800	-200	-300
Water Transportation	3,200	3,300	3,500	-100	-300
Communications	13,100	13,100	13,500	0	-400
Telephone Communications	8,600	8,600	9,000	0	-400
Electric, Gas, and Sanitary Services	16,300	16,300	16,100	0	+200
Electric Services	9,200	9,200	9,300	0	-100
Combination Utility Services	4,300	4,300	4,300	0	0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	**336,800**	**338,600**	**347,900**	**-1,800**	**-11,100**
Wholesale Trade	57,300	57,500	59,400	-200	-2,100
Wholesale Trade—Durable Goods	31,300	31,400	32,400	-100	-1,100
Machinery, Equipment, and Supplies	9,000	9,100	9,500	-100	-500
Wholesale Trade—Nondurable Goods	26,000	26,100	27,000	-100	-1,000
Groceries and Related Products	8,800	8,800	9,300	0	-500
Groceries, General Line	4,500	4,500	4,400	0	+100
Petroleum and Petroleum Products	3,600	3,600	3,300	0	+300
Retail Trade	279,500	281,100	288,500	-1,600	-9,000
Building Materials and Garden Supplies	11,300	11,200	11,700	+100	-400
Lumber and Other Building Materials	6,600	6,400	6,400	+200	+200
General Merchandise Stores	33,800	34,100	35,300	-300	-1,500
Food Stores	53,400	53,200	52,300	+200	+1,100
Grocery Stores	50,500	50,200	49,100	+300	+1,400
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	**66,100**	**65,800**	**67,300**	**+300**	**-1,200**
Depository Institutions	22,300	22,300	22,800	0	-500
Commercial Banks	15,200	15,200	15,700	0	-500
National Commercial Banks	9,000	9,100	9,300	-100	-300
Insurance Carriers	13,200	13,100	13,300	+100	-100
Life Insurance	5,300	5,200	5,400	+100	-100
Services	**304,600**	**305,100**	**303,100**	**-500**	**+1,500**
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	24,800	24,700	26,300	+100	-1,500
Health Services	65,000	64,900	62,700	+100	+2,300
Nursing and Personal Care Facilities	12,400	12,300	12,000	+100	+400
Hospitals	23,400	23,300	22,300	+100	+1,100
Educational Services	22,200	23,400	21,900	-1,200	+300
Colleges and Universities	12,000	12,700	12,600	-700	-600
Total Government	**266,600**	**281,600**	**265,300**	**-15,000**	**+1,300**
Total Federal Government	35,800	36,000	38,100	-200	-2,300
Total State and Local Government	230,800	245,600	227,200	-14,800	+3,600
Total State Government	96,800	97,700	96,400	-900	+400
State Government Education	37,100	38,200	37,300	-1,100	-200
Other State Government	59,700	59,500	59,100	+200	+600
Total Local Government	134,000	147,900	130,800	-13,900	+3,200
Local Government Education	62,000	76,200	62,100	-14,200	-100
Other Local Government	72,000	71,700	68,700	+300	+3,300

Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in South Carolina
July 1992

	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	Net Change From: June 1992	Net Change From: July 1991
Total Nonagricultural Employment	**1,488,900**	**1,485,300**	**1,512,900**	**+3,600**	**-24,000**
Total Private	**1,200,600**	**1,201,200**	**1,228,000**	**-600**	**-27,400**
Construction	**78,500**	**77,200**	**88,400**	**+1,300**	**-9,900**
Manufacturing	**361,700**	**364,300**	**366,700**	**-2,600**	**-5,000**
Durable Goods	125,300	126,400	129,400	-1,100	-4,100
Lumber and Wood Products	13,600	13,600	14,200	0	-600
Furniture and Fixtures	4,200	4,100	4,000	+100	+200
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	9,200	8,800	9,500	+400	-300
Primary Metal Industries	8,900	8,900	8,800	0	+100
Fabricated Metal Products	15,700	16,200	16,400	-500	-700
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	33,700	34,900	35,600	-1,200	-1,900
Special Industry Machinery	5,600	5,500	5,600	+100	0
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	20,800	21,100	21,900	-300	-1,100
Nondurable Goods	236,400	237,900	237,100	-1,500	-700
Food and Kindred Products	14,400	14,500	14,300	-100	+100
Textile Mill Products	90,900	91,400	92,900	-500	-2,000
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Cotton	22,200	22,700	24,200	-500	-2,000
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Manmade	22,700	22,700	23,000	0	-300
Knitting Mills	6,900	6,900	6,900	0	0
Textile Finishing, Except Wool	14,700	15,100	14,800	-400	-100
Yarn and Thread Mills	10,000	9,900	9,900	+100	+100
Apparel and Other Textile Products	36,400	36,700	37,000	-300	-600
Men's and Boys' Furnishings	9,700	9,600	9,200	+100	+500
Women's and Misses' Outerwear	10,900	11,200	11,600	-300	-700
Miscellaneous Fabricated Textile Products	9,400	9,300	9,500	+100	-100
Paper and Allied Products	17,700	17,700	17,400	0	+300
Printing and Publishing	11,300	11,400	11,600	-100	-300
Chemicals and Allied Products	41,600	41,800	40,100	-200	+1,500
Plastic Materials and Synthetics	15,000	15,000	14,800	0	+200
Transportation and Public Utilities	**63,800**	**63,900**	**65,000**	**-100**	**-1,200**
Trucking and Warehousing	19,500	19,600	19,700	-100	-200
Communication	13,000	13,000	13,400	0	-400
Electric, Gas, and Sanitary Services	16,300	16,200	16,100	+100	+200
Wholesale and Retail Trade	**329,600**	**330,500**	**340,600**	**-900**	**-11,000**
Wholesale Trade	56,800	57,200	58,900	-400	-2,100
Retail Trade	272,800	273,300	281,700	-500	-8,900
General Merchandise Stores	34,600	34,400	36,200	+200	-1,600
Food Stores	52,200	52,400	51,000	-200	+1,200
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	**64,700**	**64,700**	**65,900**	**0**	**-1,200**
Insurance Carriers	13,000	13,000	13,100	0	-100
Services	**300,500**	**298,800**	**299,100**	**+1,700**	**+1,400**
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	22,200	21,900	23,600	+300	-1,400
Educational Services	25,400	25,500	25,100	-100	+300
Total Government	**288,300**	**284,100**	**286,400**	**+4,200**	**+1,900**
Total Federal Government	35,300	35,100	37,600	+200	-2,300
Total State Government	101,200	100,800	100,800	+400	+400
Total Local Government	151,800	148,200	148,200	+3,600	+3,600

Estimated Number of Manufacturing Production Workers Employment and Average Hours and Earnings in South Carolina
July 1992

	Manufacturing Production Workers Employment				
				Net Change From:	
	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	June 1992	July 1991
Manufacturing	**271,100**	**274,900**	**275,600**	**-3,800**	**-4,500**
Durable Goods	**93,100**	**94,800**	**96,500**	**-1,700**	**-3,400**
Lumber and Wood Products	11,100	11,300	11,600	-200	-500
Furniture and Fixtures	2,800	2,800	2,700	0	+100
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	7,200	7,000	7,500	+200	-300
Fabricated Metal Products	10,800	11,100	11,400	-300	-600
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	24,500	25,700	25,900	-1,200	-1,400
Special Industry Machinery	3,700	3,600	3,700	+100	0
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	15,600	15,900	16,400	-300	-800
Instruments and Related Products	4,200	4,300	4,400	-100	-200
Nondurable Goods	**178,000**	**180,100**	**179,100**	**-2,100**	**-1,100**
Food and Kindred Products	10,000	10,100	9,900	-100	+100
Textile Mill Products	77,700	78,800	79,500	-1,100	-1,800
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Cotton	20,500	21,000	22,200	-500	-1,700
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Manmade	19,800	19,800	19,900	0	-100
Knitting Mills	6,100	6,100	6,200	0	-100
Textile Finishing, Except Wool	11,700	12,100	12,000	-400	-300
Yarn and Thread Mills	8,600	8,600	8,400	0	+200
Apparel and Other Textile Products	29,700	30,300	30,300	-600	-600
Men's and Boys' Furnishings	8,600	8,800	8,300	-200	+300
Women's and Misses' Outerwear	8,700	9,000	9,200	-300	-500
Paper and Allied Products	12,300	12,300	11,900	0	+400
Printing and Publishing	6,100	6,100	6,200	0	-100
Chemicals and Allied Products	24,300	24,300	23,400	0	+900

	Average Weekly Earnings ($)			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings ($)		
	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991
Manufacturing	**394.37**	**396.79**	**378.12**	**41.6**	**41.9**	**41.1**	**9.48**	**9.47**	**9.20**
Durable Goods	413.02	414.09	387.39	42.8	43.0	41.7	9.65	9.63	9.29
Lumber and Wood Products	334.27	333.06	330.06	42.1	42.0	42.1	7.94	7.93	7.84
Furniture and Fixtures	301.38	297.36	279.50	41.8	41.3	40.1	7.21	7.20	6.97
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	446.42	444.94	427.99	41.8	41.7	40.8	10.68	10.67	10.49
Fabricated Metal Products	408.78	408.66	386.46	41.5	41.7	41.2	9.85	9.80	9.38
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	448.42	449.52	417.21	43.2	43.6	42.1	10.38	10.31	9.91
Special Industry Machinery	453.20	454.52	442.56	44.0	44.3	44.3	10.30	10.26	9.99
Electronic and Other Elect. Equip.	384.14	386.38	369.64	42.4	42.6	42.1	9.06	9.07	8.78
Instruments and Related Products	400.96	404.06	375.80	44.8	45.3	43.8	8.95	8.92	8.58
Nondurable Goods	**384.99**	**387.39**	**373.32**	**41.0**	**41.3**	**40.8**	**9.39**	**9.38**	**9.15**
Food and Kindred Products	332.88	334.94	324.75	41.3	41.3	39.7	8.06	8.11	8.18
Textile Mill Products	363.85	365.62	341.70	41.3	41.5	40.2	8.81	8.81	8.50
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Cotton	366.21	369.33	351.01	40.6	40.9	40.3	9.02	9.03	8.71
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Manmade	384.17	385.11	350.36	41.0	41.1	38.8	9.37	9.37	9.03
Knitting Mills	312.33	322.39	280.47	41.7	42.7	38.9	7.49	7.55	7.21
Textile Finishing, Except Wool	377.86	377.01	364.53	42.6	42.6	41.9	8.87	8.85	8.70
Yarn and Thread Mills	317.97	316.33	306.94	40.3	40.4	40.6	7.89	7.83	7.56
Apparel and Other Textile Products	240.15	244.86	231.01	37.7	38.2	37.2	6.37	6.41	6.21
Men's and Boys' Furnishings	253.74	256.71	237.16	39.4	39.8	38.5	6.44	6.45	6.16
Women's and Misses' Outerwear	200.20	206.28	201.85	36.4	37.1	36.7	5.50	5.56	5.50
Paper and Allied Products	617.81	614.18	603.74	45.9	45.8	45.6	13.46	13.41	13.24
Printing and Publishing	381.20	383.94	362.88	38.7	38.9	37.8	9.85	9.87	9.60
Chemicals and Allied Products	508.82	512.93	507.41	41.1	41.6	41.9	12.38	12.33	12.11

Agricultural News

Seasonal Labor... Approximately 4,820 seasonal farmworkers were employed throughout South Carolina in July.

Weather Conditions... Daily average temperatures in the state were near normal during the period. Much needed rain dominated most of July with showers and isolated thunderstorms. By the week ending July 31, 1992, soil moisture ratings were 54 percent short and 37 percent adequate. An average of 5.8 days were available for fieldwork activities.

Field Crops... Cotton was setting bolls on 46 percent of the acreage, still well behind the normal pace for this time of year, with crop conditions rated as fair to good. Tobacco harvesting was ahead of normal with 45 percent of the crop harvested, and the condition was fair to good. Corn was maturing behind the normal rate, at 17 percent, and the condition was fair to good. Sweet potato planting remained behind normal with 89 percent of the acreage planted. Sorghum harvesting began slightly ahead of normal, and the condition was fair to good. Soybean planting was near the normal pace, with 22 percent of the acreage in bloom. The condition of the crop was fair to good.

Fruits and Vegetables... Cantaloup and watermelon harvesting was ahead of the normal pace, with 82 and 85 percent of the crops harvested, respectively. Cucumber harvesting was near last year's pace, with 86 percent of the crop harvested, and crop condition rated as fair to good. Tomato harvesting was completed with crop condition reported as fair to good. Snap-bean planting neared completion at slightly behind normal rate, with the crop condition rated as fair to good. Peach harvesting continued slightly behind normal, with 56 percent of the crop harvested. Condition of the crop improved to fair.

Small Grains and Pastures... Pastures statewide remained in fair condition. Harvesting of the fall hay crop continued ahead of the normal pace and the condition was fair.

South Carolina Weekly Crop Statistics
Week Ending July 27, 1992

Crop	Phase	Percent Completed(%) Current	Year Ago
Cantaloups	Harvested	82	82
Corn	Harvested	3	4
Cotton	Set Bolls	46	84
Cucumbers	Harvested	83	86
Fall Hay	Harvested	32	31
Oats	Harvested	95	100
Peaches	Harvested	56	70
Sorghum	Harvested	7	7
Soybeans	Set Pods	7	8
Sweet Potatoes	Planted	95	100
Tobacco	Harvested	45	43
Watermelons	Harvested	85	84

Metropolitan Statistical Area News

Summary

Total nonfarm employment in the state's major metropolitan statistical areas decreased 11,700 in July, down 4,800 from the same period last year. Most of the decline from June's employment level was concentrated in the government and service sectors, and was caused by schools releasing nonfaculty staff for the summer. These losses along with persistent market contractions in construction, manufacturing, and transportation and public utilities caused nonfarm employment to remain well below year-ago levels.

Charleston MSA
(includes Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester counties)

Charleston fared best of the three MSA's, with a drop of 1,400 nonfarm jobs in July. The government sector (-1,400) carried the weight of the loss, reflecting the closing of schools for the summer. A 200 gain in the service sector offset slight losses of 100 each in manufacturing, and transportation and public utilities. The remaining sectors experienced no movement from June levels.

At 6.0%, Charleston's unemployment was down 0.4 percentage point from June. Berkeley County moved from 6.0% to 5.9%; Charleston County dropped from 6.7% to 6.3%; and Dorchester County went down 0.6 percentage point to 5.0%.

Columbia MSA
(includes Lexington and Richland counties)

Columbia area nonfarm jobs declined 4,900 in July. The government and service sectors bore the loss, caused by the dismissal of schools' nonfaculty staff for the summer. The heavy losses in these sectors obscured slight gains of 200 and 100 in construction and manufacturing, respectively.

Joblessness in the Columbia MSA was unchanged from June, at 4.9%. Lexington County's rate declined 0.2 percentage point, to 4.3%, but Richland County's unemployment edged up 0.1 percentage point, to 5.3%.

Greenville-Spartanburg MSA
(includes Greenville, Pickens, and Spartanburg counties)

The Greenville-Spartanburg area suffered the greatest of the three large metropolitan areas, losing 5,400 jobs in July. Like the other MSA's, most of the loss was in the service and government sector caused by schools letting employees go for the summer. However, the area's factories continued to experience layoffs, primarily in the nondurable-good sector, where 500 jobs were lost. Although construction employment showed a modest 300 increase from June, this battered sector was down 1,500 from the July, 1991 level. Seasonal influences took 100 jobs from transportation and public utilities, while adding 100 to retail trade.

Unemployment in the Greenville-Spartanburg area stood at 5.4% for July, down from June's 5.5%. Greenville and Spartanburg counties each edged downward to 5.3% and 5.4%, respectively. However, Pickens County was almost a whole point, from 5.4% to 6.3%.

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment
in the Major Metropolitan Statistical Areas
July 1992

	Greenville-Spartanburg			Columbia			Charleston		
	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991
Total Nonagricultural Employment	**322,100**	**327,500**	**324,100**	**236,300**	**241,200**	**236,400**	**205,500**	**206,900**	**206,200**
Total Private	283,000	284,600	285,800	175,800	176,000	176,200	151,600	151,800	153,500
Construction and Mining	21,900	21,600	23,400	12,000	11,800	13,000	12,800	12,800	13,900
Special Trade Contractors	10,700	10,500	10,900						
Manufacturing	93,200	93,700	94,600	26,100	26,000	26,600	20,400	20,500	20,900
Durable Goods	32,500	32,500	32,900	11,800	11,800	12,200	11,300	11,200	11,500
Lumber and Wood Products	1,300	1,300	1,400	600	600	700	1,900	1,900	2,000
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products							800	800	900
Primary Metal Industries and Fabricated Metal Products	6,000	6,000	5,900	3,800	3,800	4,000	2,100	2,100	2,100
Industrial Machinery and Equip.	13,100	13,100	13,100	2,800	2,800	3,100	2,700	2,700	2,700
Metalworking Machinery	2,200	2,500	2,500						
Special Industry Machinery	3,800	3,700	4,000						
Computer and Office Equipment				1,100	1,100	1,300			
Transportation Equipment							1,900	1,900	1,900
Electronic and Other Electric Equip.	6,300	6,300	6,500	2,000	2,000	1,800			
Nondurable Goods	60,700	61,200	61,700	14,300	14,200	14,400	9,100	9,300	9,400
Food and Kindred Products	2,100	2,200	2,400	1,400	1,400	1,400			
Textile Mill Products	28,100	28,200	27,800	1,800	1,800	1,700	2,300	2,400	2,400
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Cotton	9,100	9,200	9,100						
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Man.	7,100	7,100	6,900						
Knitting Mills	1,100	1,100	1,200						
Textile Finishing, except Wool	3,000	3,100	3,000						
Carpets and Rugs	1,900	1,900	1,900						
Yarn and Thread Mills	2,700	2,700	2,600						
Apparel and Other Textile Products	5,200	5,400	6,100	1,500	1,500	1,500			
Men's and Boys' Furnishings	600	700	600						
Women's and Children's Outer and Underwear	2,200	2,300	2,800						
Paper and Allied Products	4,900	4,900	5,000	2,200	2,200	2,100	1,800	1,900	1,900
Misc. Converted Paper Products	3,600	3,800	3,800						
Printing and Publishing				2,500	2,500	2,500			
Chemicals and Allied Products	7,800	7,800	8,000	2,700	2,700	2,700	1,800	1,900	1,800
Plastics Materials and Synthetics	4,100	4,000	4,100						
Transportation and Public Utilities	13,900	14,000	14,400	10,700	10,700	11,200	10,600	10,700	11,100
Communications				3,200	3,200	3,500			
Wholesale and Retail Trade	78,800	78,700	77,400	55,300	55,300	54,700	50,100	50,100	51,400
Wholesale Trade	18,300	18,300	18,600	13,000	13,000	13,000	7,900	7,900	8,400
Retail Trade	60,500	60,400	58,800	42,300	42,300	41,700	42,200	42,200	43,000
General Merchandise Stores	6,900	7,000	6,600	5,700	5,700	5,600			
Food Stores				6,600	6,500	6,000			
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	12,600	12,600	12,500	19,900	19,900	20,000	7,500	7,500	7,700
Insurance Carriers				6,600	6,500	6,200			
Services	62,600	64,000	63,500	51,800	52,300	50,700	50,200	50,000	48,500
Health Services	12,900	12,900	12,700	10,600	10,500	10,300			
Hospitals	4,000	4,000	3,900						
Membership Organizations				3,600	3,500	3,400			
Total Government	39,100	42,900	38,300	60,500	65,200	62,200	53,900	55,300	52,700
Total Federal Government	2,100	2,100	2,100	8,300	8,300	8,200	16,700	17,000	18,300
Total State and Local Government	37,000	40,800	36,200	52,200	56,900	54,000	37,200	38,300	34,400
Total State Government	12,400	12,700	12,700	34,900	38,000	36,300	19,200	18,800	16,300
Total Local Government	24,600	28,100	23,500	17,300	18,900	17,700	18,000	19,500	18,100

Estimated Number of Manufacturing Production Workers and Average Hours and Earnings in Major Metropolitan Statistical Areas
July 1992

	Number of Production Workers			Average Hours Worked Per Week			Average Weekly Earnings (Dollars)			Average Hourly Earnings (Dollars)		
	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991
Greenville-Spartanburg												
Manufacturing	71,100	71,500	71,200	41.8	42.1	40.8	403.79	406.27	375.77	9.66	9.65	9.21
Durable Goods	23,100	23,100	23,400	44.0	44.5	42.2	455.40	460.58	418.62	10.35	10.35	9.92
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	9,500	9,600	9,700	45.8	46.2	44.2	507.92	510.05	471.17	11.09	11.04	10.66
Special Industry Machinery	2,500	2,400	2,600	45.8	46.1	44.8	470.82	471.14	444.42	10.28	10.22	9.92
Nondurable Goods	48,000	48,400	47,800	40.8	40.9	40.1	379.44	379.96	354.89	9.30	9.29	8.85
Textile Mill Products	24,800	25,000	24,000	39.8	39.9	39.6	356.61	357.50	338.98	8.96	8.96	8.56
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Manmade	6,500	6,500	6,100	39.4	39.0	40.3	358.54	354.12	348.60	9.10	9.08	8.65
Knitting Mills	900	900	900	34.8	34.1	35.5	266.92	260.18	264.83	7.67	7.63	7.46
Textile Finishing, Except Wool	2,400	2,500	2,400	43.0	43.2	37.7	368.94	370.66	315.17	8.58	8.58	8.36
Apparel and Other Textile Products	4,400	4,500	5,000	39.8	39.6	37.4	260.69	260.17	234.87	6.55	6.57	6.28
Chemicals and Allied Products	5,100	5,100	5,200	43.6	43.7	43.3	523.20	522.22	492.32	12.00	11.95	11.37
Columbia												
Manufacturing	18,000	17,900	17,800	42.0	42.0	40.9	424.62	423.36	389.78	10.11	10.08	9.53
Durable Goods	7,800	7,700	7,900	40.7	40.8	40.0	380.55	380.66	363.20	9.35	9.33	9.08
Fabricated Metal Products	2,100	2,100	2,200	38.5	39.0	38.6	361.13	366.99	358.98	9.38	9.41	9.30
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	1,300	1,300	1,400	39.6	39.9	43.5	411.44	415.36	448.49	10.39	10.41	10.31
Nondurable Goods	10,200	10,200	9,900	43.0	43.0	41.5	457.95	456.66	410.44	10.65	10.62	9.89
Textile Mill Products	1,700	1,700	1,600	43.5	43.4	38.7	389.76	389.30	339.01	8.96	8.97	8.76
Apparel and Other Textile Products	1,300	1,300	1,400	40.0	40.4	38.9	252.40	253.71	214.73	6.31	6.28	5.52
Charleston												
Manufacturing	14,500	14,600	14,200	41.9	42.0	40.7	406.01	406.14	385.02	9.69	9.67	9.46
Durable Goods	8,700	8,600	8,500	43.2	43.2	41.6	426.82	427.25	398.94	9.88	9.89	9.59
Nondurable Goods	5,800	6,000	5,700	40.0	40.2	39.2	375.20	375.47	362.60	9.36	9.34	9.25
National												
Manufacturing	12,344	12,453	12,402	40.6	41.3	40.4	465.28	472.89	453.29	11.48	11.45	11.22
Durable Goods	6,830	6,928	6,948	41.1	41.8	40.7	494.02	503.27	480.26	12.02	12.04	11.80
Nondurable Goods	5,514	5,525	5,454	40.0	40.5	39.9	430.00	432.54	417.75	10.75	10.68	10.47

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in South Carolina Counties
July 1992

	Total Nonfarm Employment			Manufacturing Employment			Nonmanufacturing Employment		
	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991
Abbeville	6,940	7,030	6,780	3,790	3,830	3,680	3,150	3,200	3,100
Aiken	58,700	60,200	58,800	24,500	24,500	23,600	34,200	35,700	35,200
Allendale	3,660	3,910	3,690	1,420	1,440	1,430	2,240	2,470	2,260
Anderson	50,600	52,700	50,900	18,500	18,900	18,800	32,100	33,800	32,100
Bamberg	4,370	4,420	4,360	1,580	1,540	1,540	2,790	2,880	2,820
Barnwell	7,160	7,400	6,950	2,870	2,880	2,630	4,290	4,520	4,320
Beaufort	35,180	35,380	34,990	940	950	960	34,240	34,430	34,030
Berkeley	25,600	25,800	26,400	6,700	6,700	7,100	18,900	19,100	19,300
Calhoun	3,340	3,660	3,280	1,630	1,630	1,570	1,710	2,030	1,710
Charleston	159,900	161,000	159,700	9,200	9,300	9,300	150,700	151,700	150,400
Cherokee	16,880	17,830	16,940	8,530	8,700	8,570	8,350	9,130	8,370
Chester	11,050	11,370	11,000	5,570	5,610	5,660	5,480	5,760	5,340
Chesterfield	13,530	14,180	13,420	8,240	8,280	8,150	5,290	5,900	5,270
Clarendon	5,900	6,500	6,050	1,390	1,390	1,390	4,510	5,110	4,660
Colleton	9,210	10,070	9,310	2,080	2,080	2,120	7,130	7,990	7,190
Darlington	20,410	21,960	20,550	7,520	7,560	7,570	12,890	14,400	12,980
Dillon	8,110	8,890	8,040	3,240	3,270	3,200	4,870	5,620	4,840
Dorchester	20,000	20,100	20,100	4,500	4,500	4,500	15,500	15,600	15,600
Edgefield	3,960	4,380	4,140	1,670	1,650	1,830	2,290	2,730	2,310
Fairfield	6,840	7,230	6,840	2,210	2,210	2,180	4,630	5,020	4,660
Florence	52,800	54,500	53,200	13,100	13,200	13,600	39,700	41,300	39,600
Georgetown	17,220	18,480	16,850	4,960	4,950	4,600	12,260	13,530	12,250
Greenville	185,200	187,900	186,300	45,800	46,000	46,300	139,400	141,900	140,000
Greenwood	27,680	28,600	27,520	10,620	10,580	10,570	17,060	18,020	16,950
Hampton	5,150	5,220	5,070	1,540	1,550	1,550	3,610	3,670	3,520
Horry	71,480	72,490	70,790	6,060	6,030	5,900	65,420	66,460	64,890
Jasper	3,420	3,560	3,450	420	420	420	3,000	3,140	3,030
Kershaw	16,150	16,440	16,340	5,610	5,730	5,780	10,540	10,710	10,560
Lancaster	17,800	17,780	18,050	7,100	7,140	7,370	10,700	10,640	10,680
Laurens	19,700	19,710	19,950	7,290	7,280	7,290	12,410	12,430	12,660
Lee	3,250	3,630	3,290	1,260	1,250	1,250	1,990	2,380	2,040
Lexington	58,800	59,500	59,900	12,200	12,200	12,500	46,600	47,300	47,400
McCormick	2,050	2,160	2,130	610	610	650	1,440	1,550	1,480
Marion	11,580	11,900	11,930	5,080	5,230	5,100	6,500	6,670	6,830
Marlboro	7,760	8,460	8,140	3,490	3,650	3,700	4,270	4,810	4,440
Newberry	11,070	11,740	11,270	4,760	4,790	5,090	6,310	6,950	6,180
Oconee	22,960	23,410	22,800	10,290	10,170	10,160	12,670	13,240	12,640
Orangeburg	27,470	29,730	29,390	7,610	9,210	9,490	19,860	20,520	19,900
Pickens	34,000	34,900	33,800	11,200	11,200	11,300	22,800	23,700	22,500
Richland	177,500	181,400	178,500	13,900	13,800	14,100	163,600	167,600	164,400
Saluda	4,010	4,140	3,910	1,990	1,990	1,880	2,020	2,150	2,030
Spartanburg	102,900	104,700	104,000	36,200	36,500	37,000	66,700	68,200	67,000
Sumter	34,140	35,190	33,180	9,830	9,810	9,080	24,310	25,380	24,100
Union	9,820	10,450	9,750	5,370	5,360	5,350	4,450	5,090	4,400
Williamsburg	10,420	10,750	10,510	4,980	5,210	5,030	5,440	5,540	5,480
York	46,700	47,900	46,700	13,200	13,400	13,600	33,500	34,500	33,100

Female Employment in South Carolina
July 1992

	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	Net Change From: June 1992	Net Change From: July 1991
Total Nonagricultural Employment	**720,000**	**735,300**	**728,000**	**-15,300**	**-8,000**
Total Private	**558,100**	**561,900**	**567,100**	**-3,800**	**-9,000**
Construction	**6,600**	**6,600**	**7,900**	**0**	**-1,300**
Manufacturing	**146,300**	**148,800**	**149,400**	**-2,500**	**-3,100**
Durable Goods	40,400	41,600	42,400	-1,200	-2,000
Lumber and Wood Products	2,100	2,200	2,300	-100	-200
Fabricated Metal Products	3,200	3,500	3,400	-300	-200
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	10,000	10,700	10,800	-700	-800
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	11,000	11,200	11,700	-200	-700
Instruments and Related Products	3,300	3,300	3,500	0	-200
Nondurable Goods	105,900	107,200	107,000	-1,300	-1,100
Food and Kindred Products	5,700	5,700	5,400	0	+300
Textile Mill Products	40,100	40,600	41,000	-500	-900
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Cotton	9,500	9,700	10,400	-200	-900
Broadwoven Fabric Mills, Manmade	10,000	10,000	10,300	0	-300
Knitting Mills	5,100	5,100	5,100	0	0
Apparel and Other Textile Products	29,200	29,900	30,100	-700	-900
Men's and Boys' Furnishings	8,600	8,700	8,400	-100	-200
Women's and Misses' Outerwear	9,400	9,800	10,100	-400	-700
Paper and Allied Products	3,900	3,900	3,900	0	0
Printing and Publishing	4,700	4,700	4,800	0	-100
Chemicals and Allied Products	11,300	11,300	10,900	0	+400
Rubber and Miscellaneous Plastics Products	10,700	10,900	10,700	-200	0
Transportation and Public Utilities	**15,800**	**15,900**	**16,100**	**-100**	**-300**
Communications	5,900	5,900	6,100	0	-200
Wholesale and Retail Trade	**169,600**	**170,600**	**175,700**	**-1,000**	**-6,100**
Wholesale Trade	15,700	15,700	16,200	0	-500
Wholesale Trade—Durable Goods	7,300	7,300	7,600	0	-300
Wholesale Trade—Nondurable Goods	8,400	8,400	8,600	0	-200
Retail Trade	153,900	154,900	159,500	-1,000	-5,600
General Merchandise Stores	24,300	24,500	25,400	-200	-1,100
Food Stores	25,600	25,500	25,200	+100	+400
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	**43,300**	**43,200**	**44,100**	**+100**	**-800**
Insurance Carriers	8,400	8,300	8,400	+100	0
Services	**176,400**	**176,700**	**173,800**	**-300**	**+2,600**
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	15,400	15,400	16,500	0	-1,100
Health Services	54,500	54,400	52,600	+100	+1,900
Hospitals	19,200	19,100	18,300	+100	+900
Educational Services	15,200	15,800	14,800	-600	+600
Total Government	**161,900**	**173,400**	**160,900**	**-11,500**	**-1,000**
Total Federal Government	12,000	12,100	12,900	-100	-900
Total State and Local Government	149,900	161,300	148,000	-11,400	+1,900
Total State Government	60,700	61,100	60,400	-400	+300
State Government Education	17,800	18,300	17,900	-500	-100
Other State Government	42,900	42,800	42,500	+100	+400
Total Local Government	89,200	100,200	87,600	-11,000	+1,600
Local Government Education	49,000	60,200	49,100	-11,200	-100
Other Local Government	40,200	40,000	38,500	+200	+1,700

National News...

Unemployment Rate Improves... The national unemployment rate edged down slightly from 7.8% to 7.7% in July, after rising sharply for the past two months. Total employment was at 117.8 million in July, 1.0 million higher than in July, 1991. The number of unemployed persons was down to 9.8 million, making up for almost half of the jump posted in June.

Nonfarm Employment Grows... Nonfarm payroll employment grew by 198,000 in July, with most of the gains concentrated in services and local government. The increase in local government jobs was unusually large at 92,000. Nearly two thirds of the gains could be attributed to a boost in federally-funded summer jobs for youth. The service industry added 110,000 jobs in July, also influenced by summer job programs. Health services continued a long-term upward trend, and business services picked up 21,000 jobs as growth continued in the help-supply industry.

Inflation Edges Up 0.1%... Inflation remained under control in July, rising only 0.1%. The gain put the Consumer Price Index (All Urban Consumers) at 140.5, which was 3.2% above the July, 1991 level. Inflation was slowed by a decline in apparel and food prices. Transportation and medical care increased the most, each up 0.5% from the previous month.

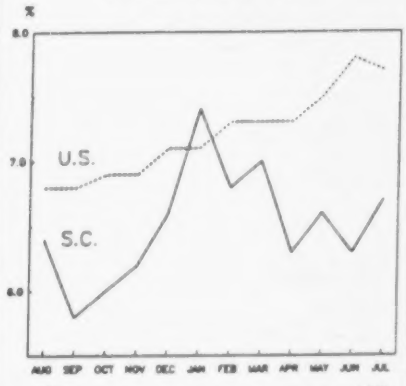
Producer Prices Up Slightly... The Producer Price Index (PPI) measures average changes in selling prices received by domestic producers for their output. In other words, it is based on prices received by producers from whoever makes the first purchase of their products. For July, producer prices rose a slight 0.1%, suggesting the sluggish economy is making it difficult for producers to charge much more for their goods. Prices were held down by a 0.4% drop in energy prices, the first decrease in six months, and a 14.3% plunge in the cost of fruit. Compared to July, 1991, producer prices of finished goods were up 1.7%.

Sales Rise 0.5%...A slow but encouraging gain of 0.5% was posted in retail sales for July. Sales of apparel and home furnishings helped push the measure up to $159.5 billion. Although consumer spending remained weak, on the positive side, apparel and home furnishings posted two consecutive increases in June and July. Restaurants, building materials and gasoline sales also picked up slightly. July is traditionally a big sales month for retailers, with lower apparel prices contributing to their success.

Industrial Output Rebounds... Industrial production increased 0.4% in July, offsetting a 0.4% decline from the previous month. Production rose to 108.9% of the 1987 average from a revised 108.5% in June. The July upturn was led by a 3.5% increase in utility output, which had declined in May and June due to unusually cool summer weather. Mining production climbed 2.8% as it recovered from June's rail strike. However, growth in industrial production remained slow as output of motor vehicles and production of equipment both fell, while factory production in other major sectors showed little change in July. Industry operated at 78.9% of capacity in July, up from 78.7% in June.

Consumer Confidence Drops... The Consumer Confidence Index plunged 11.6 points in July to 61.0 (1985=100), wiping out almost half the steady gains shown throughout the spring. Those interviewed in the survey were more negative than in June regarding their perception of prevailing economic conditions and their expectations for the coming months. Highlighting the impact of increased unemployment, sluggish retail sales, and a drop in industrial production, the low confidence level may be a grim sign for the economy. Except for the East South Central region, consumer confidence fell in all areas of the country.

U.S. and S.C.
Unemployment Rates
(Seasonally Adjusted)



U.S. Consumer Price Index
(CPI)
All Urban Consumers

Base Year 1982-1984=100.0

	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991
All Items	**140.5**	**140.2**	**136.2**

U.S Producer Price Index
(PPI)

Base Year 1982=100.0

	July 1992	June 1992	Percent Change to July 1992 from July 1991
Finished Goods	**123.7**	**123.7**	**121.6**

Technical Notes

South Carolina's Employment Trends is prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The current month's estimates are preliminary while all previous data are subject to revision. Industries are classified according to the Standard Industrial Classification Manual, 1987. All estimates are projected from a first quarter 1991 benchmark.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary employees who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Estimates measure the number of jobs by industry and reflect employment by place of work. Therefore, these data are not strictly comparable with the labor force data which represent persons by place of residence. Excluded from wage and salary estimates are proprietors, self-employed workers, private household employees, and unpaid family workers. A small percentage of wage and salary workers cannot be allocated to specific counties because of the nature of their jobs. Therefore, county data will not add to state totals.

Production worker estimates include full- and part-time employees working within manufacturing industries. Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month for production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and are affected by such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings.

Labor force data are adjusted to the Current Population Survey benchmark, and represent employment and unemployment by place of residence. These data are not comparable to the place-of-work industry employment series. Workers involved in labor disputes are counted as employed. Total employment in the labor force also includes agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics, and self-employed. The unemployment rate is calculated by dividing total unemployment by the labor force, and is expressed as a percent. Because of the conceptual differences stated above, total employment may in some instances be lower than nonagricultural wage and salary employment.

South Carolina Employment Security Commission
Labor Market Information Division
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